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A NEW CATFISH, *CORYDORAS PASTAZENSIS*  
(CALLICHTHYIDAE) FROM ECUADOR

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New species of the catfish genus *Corydoras* continue to make their appearance almost every year. Undescribed specimens from eastern Ecuador were sent to me for identification by Leonard P. Schultz of the U. S. National Museum. They belong to the long-snouted group of *Corydoras* (see Weitzman, 1961: 109) and appear most closely related to *Corydoras treitlii* Steindachner (1906). However, they differ in color pattern and certain proportions from this and any other known species.

I am indebted to Dr. Schultz for the loan of the specimens of this species; to Prof. George S. Myers of Stanford University, W. I. Follett of the California Academy of Sciences, and Dr. Paul Kähnsbauer of the Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna, for the loan of specimens for comparative examination.

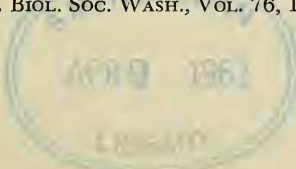
***Corydoras pastazensis*, new species**  
(Fig. 1)

*Holotype*: U. S. National Museum 177216, 49.1 mm in standard length, collected during January 1954 by Ramon Olalla at Chicherata near the mouth of the Río Bobonaza, a tributary of the Río Pastaza, itself a tributary of the Río Marañon, Pastaza Province, Ecuador, about 2° 33' S latitude and 76° 40' W longitude.

*Paratypes*: USNM 164464, three specimens collected 19 January 1954 by Ramon Olalla near the mouth of Río Bobonaza, Napo-Pastaza settlement, Ecuador.

*Diagnosis*: *Corydoras pastazensis* may be distinguished from all known species of *Corydoras* by the following combination of characters. Least interorbital width 37 to almost 42% of snout length, least depth of the caudal peduncle 14.4 to 15% of the standard length, predorsal length about 78 to 80% of the postdorsal length, least caudal peduncle depth about 65 to 69% of the snout length, and caudal fin barred.

*Description*: All proportions and percentages are based on standard



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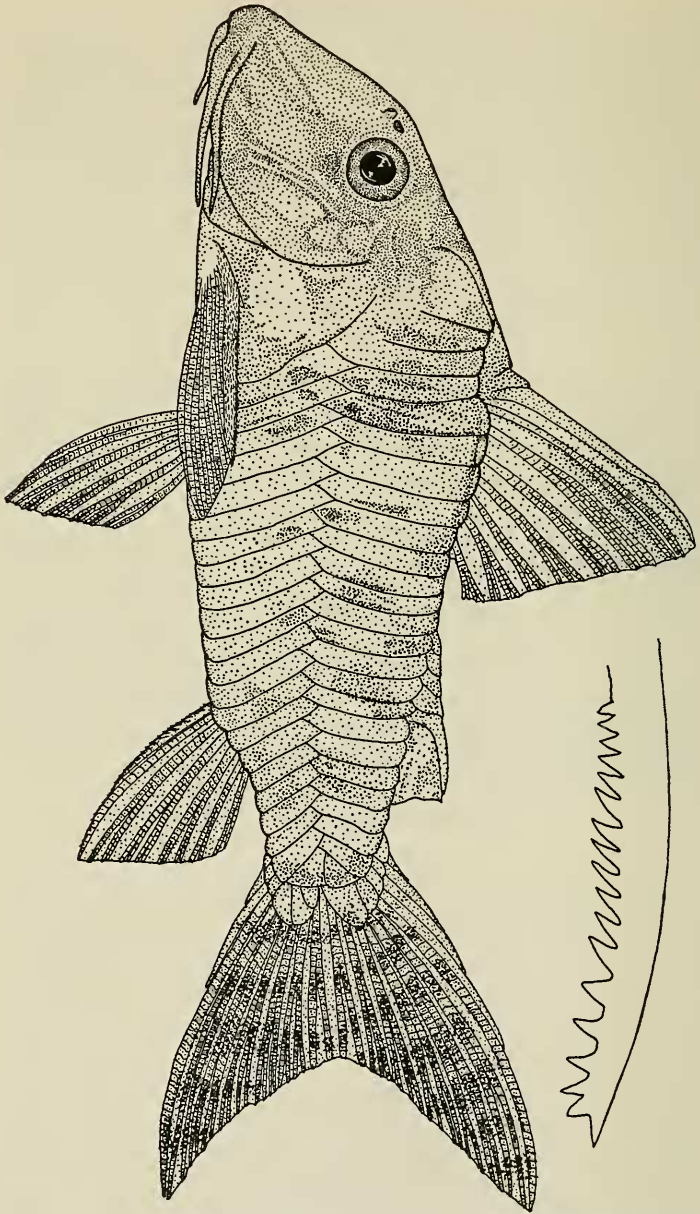


FIG. 1. *Corydoras pastazensis*, holotype USNM 177216. Standard length 49.1 mm.  
INSET: Ventral view of left pectoral fin spine.

TABLE 1.—Measurements in millimeters of specimens of *Corydoras pastazensis*

MEASUREMENTS	HOLOTYPE, USNM 177216	PARATYPES, USNM 164464		
		A	B	C
Standard length .....	49.1	49.6	50.6	60.7
Head length .....	16.7	16.3	16.3	20.0
Snout length .....	11.0	10.9	11.2	13.7
Least width of bony interorbital ..	4.6	4.2	4.6	5.1
Greatest diameter of bony orbit ..	4.5	4.3	4.6	5.1
Greatest width of suborbital .....	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.7
Length of fontanel .....	6.1	6.2	5.9	6.5
Length of predorsal scale .....	3.3	3.3	3.4	4.1
Greatest width of head .....	9.7	10.4	11.5	14.6
Snout tip to dorsal fin origin .....	24.6	24.3	25.0	31.0
Snout tip to adipose fin origin .....	40.9	41.3	42.4	51.7
Snout tip to anal fin origin .....	39.3	38.9	41.1	48.2
Snout tip to anterior edge of anus ..	26.1	27.2	27.0	31.5
Greatest body depth .....	17.5	18.2	18.6	22.5
Least depth of caudal peduncle ..	7.3	7.5	7.3	9.0
Distance between coracoids .....	5.0	5.3	5.1	6.3
Length of dorsal spine .....	11.2	11.9	12.6	14.4
Length of pectoral spine .....	10.9	12.0	11.8	13.3
Length of adipose spine .....	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.9
Postdorsal fin length .....	31.0	31.1	31.4	39.0
Post head length .....	35.1	34.6	35.3	43.7
Caudal peduncle length .....	7.2	7.2	6.7	9.3

length. Data for the holotype are given first, followed by data for paratypes in brackets. Specimens are listed as follows: Specimen A has a standard length of 49.6, specimen B 50.6, and specimen C 60.7 mm. Standard length of the holotype is 49.1 mm. Body fairly deep, greatest depth 2.7(36.4%) [A, 2.7(36.8%); B, 2.7(36.8%); C, 2.7(37.1%)]. Least depth of caudal peduncle 6.7 (14.9%) [A, 6.6(15.1%); B, 6.9 (14.4%); C, 6.7(14.8%)]. Dorsal fin origin nearer to snout tip than to caudal fin base (see Fig. 1). Distance between snout tip and dorsal fin origin 2.0(50.1%) [A, 2.0(49.0%); B, 2.0(49.5%); C, 2.0(51.1%)]. Distance between snout tip and anus 1.9(53.2%) [A, 1.8(54.8%); B, 1.9 (53.4%); C, 1.9 (51.9%)]. Anal fin origin to snout tip 1.3(80.0%) [A, 1.3(78.4%); B, 1.2(81.2%); C, 1.3(79.3%)]. Lateral scutes 24/21 in all specimens. Abdomen and thorax covered with fine posteriorly pointing, bony prickles in all specimens. Bony plates on abdomen and thorax absent. Azygous mid-dorsal scutes 4 [A, 6; B, 5; C, 4] before adipose fin and one before dorsal fin in all specimens. Pectoral fin base incompletely sur-

rounded by coracoid. Area between coracoids 9.8(10.2%) [A, 9.4 (10.7%); B, 9.9(10.1%); C, 9.6(10.4%)]. Head length 2.9(34.0%) [A, 3.0(32.9%); B, 3.1(32.2%); C, 3.0(33.0%)]; its greatest width 1.7 (58.1%) [A, 1.6(63.8%); B, 1.4(70.6%); C, 1.4(73.0%)] in its length. Least width of bony interorbital 3.6 (27.6%) [A, 3.9(25.8%); B, 3.5 (27.2%); C, 3.9(25.5%)] in head length. Snout acute in dorsal view, snout tip well rounded; its length 1.5(65.9%) [A, 1.5(66.9%); B, 1.5 (68.8%); C, 1.5(68.5%)] in head length. Dorsal profile of snout concave in all specimens. When directed posteriorly rictal barbels reach a point directly on a vertical with the posterior margin of the eye. Greatest diameter of orbit 3.7(27.0%) [A, 3.8(26.4%); B, 3.5(27.2%); C, 3.9(25.5%)] in head length. Greatest width of suborbital 5.6(17.8%) [A, 4.8 (21.0%); B, 4.6(21.8%); C, 3.0(33.3%)] in orbit.

Dorsal fin I, 7 in all specimens, last fin ray split to its base. Neither depressed spine nor first soft ray of dorsal fin reaches adipose fin spine. Adipose fin spine 1.0(104.4%) [A, 0.9(114.0%); B, 1.0(100.0%); C, 1.0 (96.0%)] in orbit. Anal fin I, 5 in all specimens, last fin ray split to its base. Pectoral fin I, 10 in all but specimen C which had I, 11. Pelvic fin rays i, 5 in all specimens. Caudal fin with principal rays 7/7 in all specimens. Pectoral fin spine (Fig. 1) has 17 [A, 16; B, 18; C, 20] prominent, mostly recurved spinules along its posterior border.

*Color:* The holotype has the following color in alcohol. The overall body color is a pale yellowish brown. The anterior part of the head (that portion exclusive of the opercula) is a grayish brown. In life the belly may have been white as it is in many species of *Corydoras*; however, in the preserved specimens it is a pale brown. A rather indistinct brown vertical bar occurs below the dorsal fin in all specimens. Posterior to this band the body is irregularly spotted with moderate sized blotches. The caudal fin has a series of 7 to 9 narrow vertical dark bars (7 in the holotype) in the upper lobe, usually one or two less in the lower lobe. Color in life is unknown.

*Discussion:* *Corydoras pastazensis* appears definitely related to long-snouted *Corydoras* such as *Corydoras acutus* (Cope, 1872), *treitlii* Steindachner (1906), *spilurus* Norman (1926), *septentrionalis* Gosline (1940), *ellisae* Gosline (1940), *fowleri* Böhlke (1950), and *concolor* Weitzman (1961). *Corydoras pastazensis* is very similar to *treitlii* in body shape and proportions, interorbital width and snout length. On the basis of least interorbital width in snout length, *pastazensis* keys to *treitlii* in Gosline's key (1940: 13). Of the species described subsequent to Gosline (1940), only *fowleri* has the least interorbital width less than 50% of the snout length. The least interorbital width is 37.2 to 41.8% of the snout length in *pastazensis*, 46% in the unique type of *fowleri*, and 37.8 to 44.0% in two type specimens of *treitlii* at hand. These two specimens, from Steindachner's original series, plus the single known specimen of *fowleri* will be treated more fully in another paper.

Both *treitlii* and *fowleri* have similar color patterns and these patterns

are very different from that of *pastazensis*. The upper body scutes are dark brown to black in *treitlii* and *fowleri* and these two species lack a barred caudal fin.

*Corydoras fowleri* is quite different from *pastazensis* in several respects. For example, the least depth of the caudal peduncle is 14.4 to 15.1% of the standard length in *pastazensis* while it is 10% in *fowleri*. The bony orbit is 25.5 to 27.8% of the head length in *pastazensis* while it is 22.8% in *fowleri*. In *fowleri* the predorsal length is about 67% of the postdorsal length while in *pastazensis* this percentage varies from 78.1 to 80.0%. In body proportions both *pastazensis* and *treitlii* are very similar, almost all proportions being within the same range. However, the least caudal peduncle depth in specimens of *treitlii* is 57 to 62% of the snout length while in *pastazensis* it is 65.2 to 68.8%.

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